

JAP7 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 JAN 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: LAURISCH et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/553,521 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: October 14, 2005 Docket: 02316.2168USWO  
Title: OPTICAL FIBER COUPLER MODULE



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on January 18, 2006.

By: 

Name: Sarah Dannecker

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**23552**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 14 Reference(s)
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By: 

Name: Steven C. Bruess

Reg. No.: 34,130

SCB/sbd

S/N 10/553,521

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	LAURISCH et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/553,521	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
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13 SD

By:

Name: Sarah Dannecker

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

European Patent Reference No. 0 531 628 corresponds to German Patent Reference No. DE 41 19 829.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

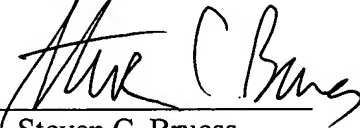
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: January 12, 2006

By:   
Steven C. Bruess  
Reg. No. 34,130

SCB/sbd

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 02316.2168USWO	Application Number: 10/553,521
	Applicant: LAURISCH et al.	
	Filing Date: October 14, 2005	Group Art Unit: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	6,418,262	07/2002	Puetz et al.				
	6,192,180	02/2001	Kim et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	DE 101 13 528	09/2002	Germany			Abstract	
	2002-236219	08/2002	Japan			X	
	DE 201 15 940	02/2002	Germany			Abstract	
	DE 199 43 191	04/2001	Germany			Abstract	
	DE 299 01 931	08/2000	Germany			Abstract	
	WO 00/05611	02/2000	WIPO				
	DE 297 19 095	03/1998	Germany			Abstract	
	9-236709	09/1997	Japan			X	
	DE 195 08 775	09/1996	Germany			Abstract	
	DE 43 08 228	10/1994	Germany			Abstract	
	EP 0 617 304	09/1994	Europe			Abstract	
	DE 42 30 418	03/1994	Germany			Abstract	
	EP 0 531 628	03/1993	Europe				
	DE 41 19 829	12/1992	Germany			See IDS	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							

**23552**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	